(a) whether Central Government have sent any team to review the progress of on-going irrigation projects in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the action being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Clearance of upper Tunga project

992. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared the Upper Tunga Project proposed by the Karnataka Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The modified project report submitted in February, 1992 envisages annual irrigation to 94,698 hectares at an estimated cost of Rs. 378.87 crores.

Clearance of Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project

993. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project has been received for clearance from Karnataka Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Inter Linking of Rivers

994. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any memorandum regarding linking of southern rivers; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Suggestions and representation for and against linking of Southern rivers have been received from individuals and State Governments from time to time. The National Water Development Agency has been entrusted with the task of conducting studies and preparing feasibility reports for optimum utilisation of available waters. It has completed preliminary feasibility reports of 9 water transfer links out of 17 such links envisaged for peninsular rivers. Implementation of water transfer links depends on how soon the detailed project reports are prepared and the consensus/agreement among the basin States is reached on the detailed project reports.

Assistance by Central Water Commission for Hydro Power Projects

995. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission assist the Central Electricity Authority and power generation public sector companies in appraisal of projects for all major and medium hydro-power projects with emphasis on flood and water studies;